THE FOLLOW UP

WHAT'S YOUR WORLDVIEW? You have 6 days to get these 4 devos and the Quiet Time Challenge done



In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ~ Genesis 1:1-3

DEVO #1—Your Creator God?

READ: Genesis 1

A biblical worldview teaches that God is real, and He is our Creator. He made the world, us, and everything else. Scripture further tells us of His revealing work, His incarnation to redeem a fallen people, and His immanent return to judge the world. Yes, God is active in our lives and intensely interested in His creation.

Meanwhile, a secular worldview would say that there is no God, at least not as Christians would define Him. They might allow for an "entity" that exists in the cosmos, but this nebulous entity has no direct or personal role in our lives or in world affairs. It is simply a "higher power" that should have no bearing on our thoughts, on our decisions, or on how we live our lives.

1. When it comes to God, which of the above views do most of your friends have?

2. What does the Bible show God doing in Genesis 1?

- 3. The devil would love for us to not believe in a Creator God, because if we doubt the very first chapter of the Bible, why would we believe the rest?!? What do you believe?
- 4. Why is having the right worldview so important?

PRAYER

- ~Thank God for creating everything
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, not embracing a biblical view of the Lord
- ~Ask God to help you trust in Him as your Creator and King

ADDITIONAL NOTE SPACE

POSSIBLE ACTION STEPS

- Check out www.answersingenesis.org. Learn a few things about how God created you and the universe...and the scientific backing behind it all
- Also check out creationmuseum.org and invest time in some of the online exhibits. You'll be glad you did!
- Keep praying at least ten minutes each day
- Engage in some worldview discussions with your friends, see how they view the world and why they have chosen that view

QUIET TIME CHALLENGE

NOTE:

The Quiet Time Challenge is NOT a devotional in itself. It is designed for you to do separately apart from your daily devotional time.

HOW IT WORKS:

Find a quiet place with no distractions. Make this between just you and God. Clear your mind then read the Bible verse(s). After doing so, work through the questions. At the end, spend 5 to 10 minutes in "listening mode." Just ask God to speak to you and then be quiet and seek to hear His voice.

PART 1 - READ: Matthew 16:21-23

PART 2 - QUESTIONS

Explain these verses in your own words:

Do you seek to see things from God's point of view or from man's?

PART 3 - LISTEN

Ask God to examine your heart and to open your eyes to see things as He does. Then seek to hear His voice speak to your soul. (Feel free to jot down anything you hear.)

DEVO #2 — The Pinnacle of God's Creation

READ: Genesis 2:4-25

A biblical worldview tells us that man was formed by God as the pinnacle of His creation. God created us in His image with the ability to love and to know as no other creature in the universe. We were created with these abilities because God wants us to love and know Him. This means we are not just some random collection of atoms, molecules, and cells brought together by sheer luck. No, we have infinite worth. We were created as God's workmanship. We are wonderfully complex and loved creations made for a special purpose by an intensely personal God. God planned us before we were born. He desires to guide us and lead us into His good, pleasing, and perfect plan throughout our lives, and then usher us into eternity with Him in heaven.

- 1. From the secular perspective, without a belief in an infinitely loving Creator God, you have little choice but to believe that we walk this earth today as the result of chance and evolution. How would such a view make you feel about your worth?
- 2. If we believe we are here by chance, that means there is nothing special about us. It is survival of the fittest—so live and get all the money and pleasure you can while you can. Would such a mindset help you live life helping others? Why or why not?
- 3. How does knowing you were created with a special purpose and also loved beyond all possible measure make you feel?
- 4. What can you do to help others realize this as well?

PRAYER

- ~Thank God for His purposeful creation of you
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, not developing a close relationship with Someone who loves you so much
- ~Ask God for opportunities to tell others about Him

DEVO #3 - Truth and Ethics

READ: Genesis 3

A biblical worldview understands that truth truly exists, and it is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Meanwhile, when a secular view says truth is relative and subjective, objective truth becomes situational and few think twice about it. Then people start saying, "There's no such thing as absolute truth," which is itself an absolute statement...so everything starts to get real confusing!

Likewise, with ethics (right and wrong), the Bible says that these things cannot subjectively be determined by us, rather they are objectively judged by God. On the secular side, once truth becomes relative, it is a short trip to "right and wrong" becoming relative as well. If truth is no longer based on absolute, objective fact, then right and wrong will not be based on that either.

- 1. In the reading today, God gave an unchanging rule. Even though Adam and Eve had excuses, what was the result of breaking this rule?
- 2. We, or those around us, might try to change or alter what is true or what is right and wrong, but what can we learn about this from Adam and Eve in Genesis 3?
- 3. When it comes to truth and ethics, which view do you hold? How about most of your friends?
- 4. How could reading the Bible regularly help you better embrace God's view of truth and ethics?

PRAYER

- ~Thank God for His unchanging Word
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, following a cultural view of truth and ethics
- ~Ask God to help you study His Word regularly that you might better understand His truth, His ways, and His purposes

DEVO #4 - Knowledge

READ: Job 38:1-7, 33-41; 40:1-5

The Bible declares that all knowledge flows from God and His revelation. This does not mean, despite the claims of many with a secular worldview, that Christians are anti-science. It simply means that when all is said and done, our pursuit of knowledge starts with God, is guided by God, and ends with God.

Meanwhile, the secularists believe that all our knowledge must come from science. Unless it is scientifically verifiable, you cannot count it as knowledge. Of course, things like love, hope, and will are not scientifically verifiable, but are still extremely real!

- 1. What kind of questions does the Lord ask Job?
- 2. The Lord was questioning a prideful Job to help him understand who holds all knowledge and understanding. Did Job learn his lesson?
- 3. Do you hold a biblical view of knowledge? Why or why not?

4. What things can help you grow in the knowledge of God?

PRAYER

- ~Thank God for His wisdom and knowledge
- ~Confess to God, if necessary, thinking you know better than Him
- ~Ask God to guide you deeper and deeper into His wisdom and understanding